

Writing Body Paragraphs

Your **body paragraphs** should provide a topic sentence. The rest of the paragraph should provide context for a quote or a paraphrase example. Then you should provide that example. After you provide that example, you should explain how it supports your thesis statement. **DO NOT** merely tell your reader what the quote means; this can lead to summary. You need to **analyze**.

Follow **TIQA**:

Topic sentence

Introduce quote: put the quote into context.

Quote: provide your quote

Analyze: explain to the reader the **importance of the quote** and **how it supports your topic sentence**.

Transition sentence: transition from the first example to your second example.

Introduce quote: introduce your second piece of evidence.

Quote: provide your second quote.

Analyze: analyze your second quote, and if possible, tie the two pieces of evidence together to make a larger argument.

Transition sentence: transition from the second example to your third example.

Introduce quote: introduce your third piece of evidence.

Quote: provide your third quote.

Analyze: analyze your third quote, and if possible, tie it to your other pieces of evidence to make a larger argument.

Incorporating Quotes into the Body Paragraphs

All quotations must be **TIED** to the paper. Do not simply sprinkle quotes in like confetti. They must make sense in the flow of your paper. Smooth transitions are the sign of a well-versed writer.

T- TRANSITION- Work the quotation comfortably into your sentence structure. Do not simply have your quotation stand alone.

Bad example:

Mitch Albom wrote *Tuesdays with Morrie*. "When you learn how to die, you learn how to live." (Albom 83). This is a major theme in the novel.

How do you do this well? See introduce and embed!

I- INTRODUCE- It is necessary to introduce a quotation before adding it to your paper. This way the reader is able to understand its importance in relation to your paper.

Good examples:

A major theme in Mitch Albom's *Tuesdays with Morrie* is that "when you learn how to die, you learn how to live" (83).

OR

According to Morrie Schwartz, "when you learn how to die, you learn how to live" (Albom 83).

OR

As Mitch Albom points out, "when you learn how to die, you learn how to live" (Albom 83).

OR

Morrie argues that, "when you learn how to die, you learn how to live" (Albom 83).

Try the following: Mitch Albom (or a character) demonstrates, maintains, suggests, emphasizes, reports, holds, declares, observes, asserts... and so on.

E- EMBED- Embedding a quote means it makes it way into the middle of a sentence you are writing. You introduce the quote and make a statement about it in the same sentence.

Good example:

When Morrie says, "when you learn how to die, you learn how to live," a major theme in the novel is revealed (Albom 83).

Indicating Changes in Quotations: Adapted from http://www.wisc.edu/writing/Handbook/QPA_quoting.html

Quoting Only a Portion of the Whole

Use **ellipsis points** (. . .) to indicate an omission within a quotation--but not at the beginning or end unless it's not obvious that you're quoting only a portion of the whole.

Adding Clarification, Comment, or Correction

Within quotations, use **square brackets** [] (not parentheses) to add your own clarification, comment, or correction.

My Body Paragraphs

Body Paragraph One:

Topic Sentence:

Introduce Quote:

Quote:

Analysis:

Body Paragraph Two:

Transition Sentence:

Introduce Quote:

Quote:

Analysis:

Body Paragraph Three:

Transition Sentence:

Introduce Quote:

Quote:

Analysis: